

# Quantum friction and non-equilibrium fluctuation theorems

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Work done in collaboration with  
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# Outline of this Talk

- (Some) previous quantum friction calculations
- Atom-surface interaction: equilibrium
  - Fluctuation-dissipation vs quantum regression
- Atom-surface interaction: non-equilibrium
  - Fluctuation-dissipation vs quantum regression
  - Moving oscillator
  - Moving two-level atom

# A variety of predictions

● Mahanty 1980

$$F = -\frac{\hbar\alpha(0)}{32z_a^5} \frac{\epsilon(0) - 1}{\epsilon(0) + 1} v_x$$

● Schlaich & Harris 1981

$$F = -\frac{\alpha^2(0)e^4}{\hbar\omega_s^2 z_a^{10}} v_x$$

● Tommassone & Widom 1997 (electric dipole + FDT)

$$F = -v_x \frac{3\hbar}{2\pi z_a^5} \int_0^\infty d\omega \frac{\partial n(\omega)}{\partial \omega} \Delta_I(\omega) \alpha_I(\omega) \rightarrow 0 \text{ for } T = 0 \quad \Delta(\omega) = \frac{\epsilon(\omega) - 1}{\epsilon(\omega) + 1}$$

● Volokitin & Persson 2002 Same result (electric dipole + Lorentz force)

● Dedkov & Kyasov 2002-...  $dW/dt = -Fv_x$

$$F = \frac{2\hbar}{\pi^2} \int_0^\infty dk_x k_x \int_{-\infty}^\infty dk_y k e^{-2kz_a} \int_0^{k_x v_x} d\omega \Delta_I(\omega) \alpha_I(\omega - k_x v_x) \propto v_x^3$$

● Scheel & Buhmann 2009 two- (multi-) level atom + master equation + QRT

$$F = -v_x \frac{d^2\Omega\gamma_a}{2z_a^5} \int_0^\infty d\xi \frac{\Omega^2 - 3\xi^2}{(\Omega^2 + \xi^2)^3} \Delta(i\xi)$$

● Barton 2010 Same result SB

● Kardar et al 2013 Same result as TW+VP+DK

# Equilibrium case

Zero temperature  $T = 0$

Uncorrelated initial atom+field/matter

$$\hat{\rho}(0) = \hat{\rho}_a(0) \otimes \hat{\rho}_{\text{fm}}(0)$$

Ground state atom + vacuum field/matter

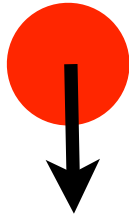
Electric field operator

$$\hat{\mathbf{E}}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \hat{\mathbf{E}}_0^{(+)}(\mathbf{r}, t) + \frac{i}{\hbar} \int_0^\infty d\omega \int_0^t d\tau e^{-i\omega\tau} \underline{G}_I(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_a, \omega) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{d}}(t - \tau) + h.c.$$

Normal force on the atom

$$F_z(t) = \text{Re} \left\{ \frac{2i}{\pi} \int_0^\infty d\omega \int_0^t d\tau e^{-i\omega\tau} \text{Tr} \left[ \langle \hat{\mathbf{d}}(t) \hat{\mathbf{d}}(t - \tau) \rangle \cdot \partial_z \underline{G}_I(\mathbf{r}_a, \mathbf{r}_a, \omega) \right] \right\}$$

$$\underline{C}_{ij}(t, t - \tau) \equiv \langle \hat{d}_i(t) \hat{d}_j(t - \tau) \rangle$$


$$F_z(t) = \langle \hat{\mathbf{d}} \cdot \partial_z \hat{\mathbf{E}}(\mathbf{r}_a, t) \rangle$$



# CP: Fluctuation-dissipation

- Stationary ( $t \rightarrow \infty$ )  
density matrix of coupled system

$$\hat{\rho}(\infty) = \hat{\rho}_{\text{KMS}} \propto e^{-\beta \hat{H}}$$

(Kubo-Martin-Schwinger)

- Large time correlator  $\underline{C}_{ij}(\tau) = \text{tr} \left\{ \hat{d}_i(0) \hat{d}_j(-\tau) \hat{\rho}_{\text{KMS}} \right\}$

- Fluctuation-dissipation (FDT)

power spectrum

$$\underline{S}(\omega) = \frac{\hbar}{\pi} \theta(\omega) \underline{\alpha}_I(\omega)$$

polarizability

$$\underline{S}(\omega) = (2\pi)^{-1} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau e^{i\omega\tau} \underline{C}(\tau)$$

$$\underline{\alpha}(\tau) = (i/\hbar) \theta(\tau) \text{tr} \{ [\hat{\mathbf{d}}(0), \hat{\mathbf{d}}(-\tau) \hat{\rho}_{\text{KMS}}] \}$$

- Stationary Casimir-Polder force

$$F_{\text{CP}} = \frac{\hbar}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} d\xi \text{Tr} \{ \underline{\alpha}(i\xi) \cdot \partial_z \underline{G}(\mathbf{r}_a, \mathbf{r}_a, i\xi) \}$$

# Eg.: Harmonic oscillator model

Exact polarizability  $\underline{\alpha}(\omega) = (e^2/m)[\omega_a^2 - \omega^2 - (e^2/m)\underline{G}(\mathbf{r}_a, \mathbf{r}_a, \omega)]^{-1}$

Green tensor: vacuum+scattering contributions  $\underline{G} = \underline{G}_v + \underline{G}_s$

Vacuum-dressed polarizability  $\underline{\alpha}_0(\omega) = (e^2/m)[\omega_a^2 - \omega^2 - (e^2/m)\underline{G}_v(\omega)]^{-1}$

$$\underline{\alpha}(\omega) = [1 - \underline{\alpha}_0(\omega) \cdot \underline{G}_v(\omega)]^{-1}$$

Standard scattering formula

$$F_{\text{CP}} = -\frac{\hbar}{2\pi} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \int_0^\infty d\xi \text{Tr} \log[1 - \alpha_0(i\xi) \cdot \underline{G}_s(\mathbf{r}_a, \mathbf{r}_a, i\xi)]$$

# CP: Quantum regression

🌐 **Onsager regression theorem:** *The average regression of fluctuations obeys the same laws as the corresponding irreversible process* (Onsager 1931)

🌐 **Quantum regression hypothesis** (aka “theorem”, QRT) (Lax 1963)

$$\underline{C}(t, t - \tau) \equiv \langle \mathbf{d}(t) \mathbf{d}(t - \tau) \rangle = \langle \mathbf{d}^2(t) \rangle e^{-i(\omega_a - i\gamma_a/2)\tau}$$

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- Widely used in quantum optics
- Approximate: weak system-bath coupling, near resonance (Ford+O’Connell 1996)
- Exact quantum generalization of Onsager regression: FDT
- FDT and QRT predict different decay of correlations
  - “Short” times ( $\tau\gamma_a \ll 1$ ): exponential decay    QRT = FDT
  - “Large” times ( $\tau\gamma_a \gg 1$ ): power-law decay    QRT  $\neq$  FDT



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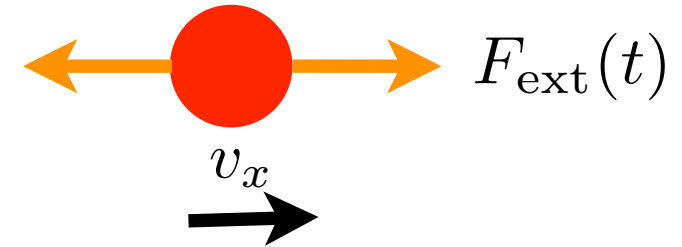
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🌟 **Stationary CP force using QRT**

$$F_{\text{CP}} = \frac{\hbar}{\pi} \int_0^\infty d\xi \text{Tr} \left\{ \frac{\tilde{\underline{\alpha}}(i\xi) + \tilde{\underline{\alpha}}(-i\xi)}{2} \cdot \partial_z \underline{G} \right\} \quad \tilde{\underline{\alpha}}(i\xi) = (\mathbf{d}\mathbf{d}/\hbar) [(\omega_a^2 + i\xi - i\gamma_a/2)^{-1} + (\omega_a^2 + i\xi + i\gamma_a/2)^{-1}]$$

# Non-equilibrium case

$$F_x(t) = \langle \hat{\mathbf{d}}(t) \cdot \partial_x \hat{\mathbf{E}}(\mathbf{r}_a(t), t) \rangle$$



Ground state atom

Prescribed motion

$$\mathbf{r}_a(t) = \begin{cases} (x_a, y_a, z_a) & \text{for } t \leq 0 \\ (x_a + v_x t, y_a, z_a) & \text{for } t > t_s \end{cases}$$



$$m_a \ddot{x}_a(t) = F_{\text{ext}}(t) + F_x(t)$$

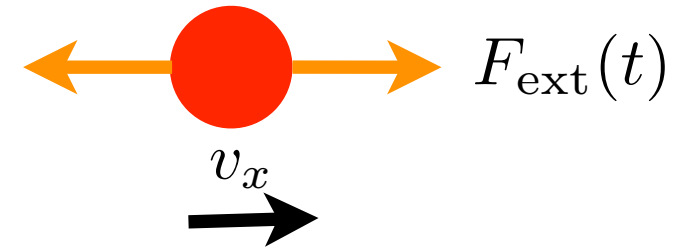
Stationary ( $t \rightarrow \infty$ ) frictional force

$$F_{\text{fric}} = \text{Re} \left\{ \frac{2}{\pi} \int \frac{d^2 \mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^2} k_x \int_0^\infty d\omega \int_0^\infty d\tau e^{-i(\omega - k_x v_x)\tau} \text{Tr}[\underline{C}(\tau; v_x) \cdot \underline{G}_I(\mathbf{k}, z_a, \omega)] \right\}$$

$$\underline{C}_{ij}(\tau; v_x) = \text{tr} \{ \hat{d}_i(0) \hat{d}_j(-\tau) \hat{\rho}(\infty) \}$$

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$$\underline{C}_{ij}(\tau; v_x) = \text{tr}\{\hat{d}_i(0)\hat{d}_j(-\tau)\hat{\rho}(\infty)\} \longrightarrow \hat{\rho}(\infty) = ???$$

# NEQ FT and quantum friction

🌐 No general results as in the equilibrium case  
However, it is still possible to draw general conclusions about the frictional force in the low-velocity limit.

Chetrite et al. 2008  
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- 🌐 Non-equilibrium power spectrum  $\underline{S}(\omega; v_x) = (2\pi)^{-1} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau e^{i\omega\tau} \underline{C}(\tau; v_x)$

$$F_{\text{fric}} = 2 \int \frac{d^2\mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^2} k_x \int_0^{\infty} d\omega \text{Tr}[\underline{S}_R(k_x v_x - \omega; v_x) \cdot \underline{G}_I(\mathbf{k}, z_a, \omega)]$$

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## ● Small velocity analysis: no linear-in-v terms

- Contributions from  $\underline{S}_R(-\omega; v_x)$  cancel upon integration over  $k_x$
- Contributions from  $\underline{S}_R(k_x v_x - \omega; 0) \longrightarrow$  equilibrium FDT!

$$\underline{S}_R(k_x v_x - \omega; 0) = (\hbar/\pi) \theta(k_x v_x - \omega) \underline{\alpha}_I(k_x v_x - \omega)$$

$$F_{\text{fric}} \approx \frac{2\hbar v_x^3}{3(2\pi)^2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dk_y \int_0^{\infty} dk_x k_x^4 \text{Tr}[\alpha'_I(0) \cdot G'_I(\mathbf{k}, z_a, 0)]$$

# FTD vs QRT and q. friction

🌐 The exact FDT predicts a stationary frictional force at zero temperature that scales (at least) as velocity cubed, *independent of the model for the atom's polarizability.*

# FTD vs QRT and q. friction

🌟 The exact FDT predicts a stationary frictional force at zero temperature that scales (at least) as velocity cubed, *independent of the model for the atom's polarizability*.

🌟 In contrast, QRT gives a linear-in-velocity stationary frictional force

Using the QRT for the correlator in the static case,  $\underline{C}(t, t - \tau) = \langle \mathbf{d}^2(t) \rangle e^{-i(\omega_a - i\gamma_a/2)\tau}$

$$F_{\text{fric}}^{\text{QRT}} \approx v_x \frac{d^2 \gamma_a}{3\pi} \int \frac{d^2 \mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^2} k_x^2 \int_0^\infty \frac{\omega + \omega_a}{[(\omega + \omega_a)^2 + \gamma_a^2/4]^2} \text{Tr}[\underline{G}_I(\mathbf{k}, z_a, \omega)]$$

🌟 However, in the weak coupling limit ( $\gamma_a \rightarrow 0$ )

$$\text{QRT} = \text{FDT}$$

$$F_{\text{fric}} \propto \exp(-1/v_x)$$



# Moving harmonic oscillator

Model the atom as a linear harmonic oscillator

Dipole moment  $\hat{\mathbf{d}} = e\hat{\mathbf{x}}$

Equation of motion can be solved exactly, including transients

$$\ddot{\hat{\mathbf{d}}}(t) + \omega_a^2 \hat{\mathbf{d}}(t) = (e^2/m) \hat{\mathbf{E}}(\mathbf{r}_a(t), t)$$

Laplace transform ( $t > t_s$ )

$$\left[ s^2 + \omega_a^2 - \frac{e^2}{m} \int \frac{d^2\mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^2} \int_0^\infty d\omega \frac{G_s(\mathbf{k}, z_a, \omega)}{s - i(\omega + k_x v_x)} \right] \hat{\mathbf{d}}(s) = \frac{e^2}{m} \hat{\mathbf{E}}_0(s) + s\hat{\mathbf{d}}(t_s) + \dot{\hat{\mathbf{d}}}(\mathbf{t}_s)$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{E}} = \hat{\mathbf{E}}_0 + \hat{\mathbf{E}}_s \quad \text{Free + source field}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{d}}(t) = \hat{\mathbf{d}}_H(t) + \hat{\mathbf{d}}_P(t)$$



Depends on initial conditions. Decays to zero at large times

# Non-equilibrium FDT

Using the exact solution for the oscillator model, one can prove the following **exact, non-equilibrium fluctuation-dissipation relation**

$$\underline{S}(\omega; v_x) = \frac{\hbar}{\pi} \theta(\omega) \alpha_I(\omega; v_x) - \frac{\hbar}{\pi} \underline{J}(\omega; v_x)$$

$\alpha(\omega; v_x)$  dynamic polarizability of moving oscillator

$$\alpha(\omega; v_x) = \frac{e^2}{m} \left[ \omega_a^2 - \omega^2 - \frac{e^2}{m} \int \frac{d^2 \mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^2} \underline{G}(\mathbf{k}, z_a, \omega + k_x v_x) \right]^{-1}$$

Current  $\underline{J}(\omega; v_x)$

$$\underline{J}(\omega; v_x) = \int \frac{d^2 \mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^2} [\theta(\omega) - \theta(\omega + k_x v_x)] \underline{\alpha}(\omega; v_x) \cdot \underline{G}_I(\mathbf{k}, z_a, \omega + k_x v_x) \cdot \underline{\alpha}^\dagger(\omega; -v_x)$$

Non-equilibrium FDT in classical models have the same form

Chetrite et al. 2008

Using the  $\underline{S}(\omega; v_x)$  above one can verify that  $F_{\text{fric}} \propto v_x^3$

# Moving two-state atom

Model the atom as a two-level system (generalization to multi-level possible)

Dipole moment  $\hat{\mathbf{d}} = \mathbf{d}\hat{\sigma}_x$

Non-linear equation of motion. Exact solution not possible

$$\ddot{\hat{\sigma}}_x(t) + \omega_a^2 \hat{\sigma}_x(t) = -\frac{2\omega_a}{\hbar} \hat{\sigma}_z(t) \mathbf{d} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{E}}(\mathbf{r}_a(t), t) \quad \langle \hat{\sigma}_x(t) \hat{\sigma}_x(t') \rangle = ?$$

Perturbative solution in powers of the atom-field coupling  $\mathbf{d}$

-  $\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{d}^2)$  :  $\underline{C}(t, t'; v_x) \approx \mathbf{d}\mathbf{d}e^{-i\omega_a(t-t')} \longrightarrow F_{\text{fric}} \propto \exp(-1/v_x)$

-  $\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{d}^4)$  :

$$\ddot{\hat{\sigma}}_x(t) + \omega_a^2(t) \hat{\sigma}_x(t) + \frac{2}{\hbar^2} \int_0^t dt_1 \{ \mathbf{d} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{E}}_0(\mathbf{r}_a(t), t), \mathbf{d} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{E}}_0(\mathbf{r}_a(t_1), t_1) \} \dot{\hat{\sigma}}_x(t_1) = -\frac{2\omega_a}{\hbar} \hat{\sigma}_z(0) \mathbf{d} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{E}}_0(\mathbf{r}_a(t), t)$$

$$\longrightarrow \underline{S}(\omega; v_x) \approx \frac{4\omega_a^2}{\pi\hbar} \mathbf{d}\mathbf{d} \int \frac{d^2\mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^2} \frac{\theta(\omega + k_x v_x) \text{Tr}[\mathbf{d}\mathbf{d}\underline{G}_I(\mathbf{k}, z_a, \omega + k_x v_x)]}{[\omega_a^2 - (\omega - i0^+)^2][\omega_a^2 - (\omega + i0^+)^2]}$$

$$\longrightarrow F_{\text{fric}} \propto v_x^3$$

# Conclusions

- Atom-surface quantum friction from general non-equilibrium stat. mech.
- $\text{QRT} \neq \text{FDT}$
- Non-equilibrium FDT predicts a cubic-in- $v$  frictional force
- At high temperatures (classical limit),  $\text{QRT} = \text{FDT}$  , and linear-in- $v$  friction
- Same analysis possible for quantum friction between macroscopic bodies
- Note: all the above is valid in the *true stationary, long-time limit*, after all transients have died out. *For shorter times*, the atom-friction force is linear-in- $v$ , in agreement with (some) previous calculations